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S.C.R. NO. 43

MAR 0 5 2019

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HONOLULU BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY TO INVESTIGATE STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR ALLOWING EVENT SPONSORS TO ACCESS ADDITIONAL STATE AND COUNTY CONTROLLED OR OPERATED WATER SUPPLIES.

WHEREAS, single-use plastic water bottles are a serious environmental issue; and

WHEREAS, bottled water requires over 17,000,000 barrels of oil annually to make enough water bottles for the United States alone; and

WHEREAS, it takes 1.85 gallons of water to produce a 16 ounce single-use plastic water bottle; and

WHEREAS, imported bottled water uses more energy to extract the resources for, manufacture, and transport bottled water than the amount of energy generated from burning plastic water bottles for H-power and costs more than shipping the same volume of oil for energy production; and

WHEREAS, bottled water is more expensive than tap water for the average consumer, and it is estimated that one-third of all bottled water sold in the United States is repackaged tap water; and

WHEREAS, single-use plastic water bottles may contain chemicals such as antimony and phthalates, which can leach into the surrounding liquid, and the consumption of the contaminated liquid results in the absorption of the chemicals into the body, leading to health problems; and

WHEREAS, single-use plastic water bottles take centuries to decompose in landfills and can be replaced by readily available, high quality reusable water bottles and a variety of water filtration systems, which cost less when factoring in shipping, production, and environmental impact costs; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, in consultation with the Department of Health and other appropriate state departments, is requested to investigate standards and procedures for allowing event sponsors to access additional state and county controlled or operated water supplies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honolulu Board of Water Supply is requested to investigate installing backflow preventers and related plumbing equipment on existing potable water systems, to facilitate public access to such potable water in the park sites most frequently used for special events; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Honolulu Board of Water Supply is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Manager and Chief Engineer of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply and Director of Health.

OFFERED BY:

Posu

Romer de Bole